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there will be less number of persons attending the gruel centres, and, if so, will the Government consider opening more relief works?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—"The first part of the proposition is correct. The other part will be considered."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—"How many gruel centres are there and how much money is spent on them, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—"Notice."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—"May I know, Sir, who is that gentleman who tried this gruel now and approved of it. Last time it was Mr. Munshi."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—"The gentlemen are those who go to the gruel centres and take gruel."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—"The Hon. Minister was kind enough to agree that if more works were undertaken to help the people, there would be less number of people attending the gruel centres. If he undertakes to give more work, would he also undertake to give better gruel at the gruel centres when the number will be less?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—"It will be considered, Sir."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—"Sir, the Hon. Minister in reply to the question put by Mr. Nagi Reddi, whether bad quality of gruel would not lead to the spread of diseases like cholera, said that such medical warnings did not apply to the gruel centres. Thereby he conceded that medical warnings had been given. I would like to know specifically to which areas the medical warnings applied."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—"I am not aware of it, Sir. If hygienic conditions are absent, then it will affect me and the hon. Gentleman also."

Construction of a bridge at Kannayangode ferry in North Malabar.

* 87 *Q.*—SRI C. KUNHIRAMA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to construct a bridge at Kannayangode ferry in North Malabar?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI.—"There is no proposal at present to construct a bridge at Kannayangode ferry in North Malabar."

SRI C. KUNHIRAMA KURUP :—"In view of the fact that this is a ferry that has to be crossed by people of more than 20 villages to reach the Quilandy sub-taluk, will the Government consider the desirability of constructing a bridge?"

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THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" The question of including the work in the future programme will be considered."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, would the suggestion to construct the bridge be considered at least on the basis of the self-paying toll system, which is being adopted in other parts of Malabar, especially because the various villages will be cut off during the monsoon for want of bridges? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" I think the District Board should make that proposal."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Are the Government aware that there are a number of other rivers on the main road in North Malabar that have no bridges and will the Government consider constructing them? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is a general question."

Cultivation of tank-beds by Harijans.

88 Q.—SRI P. VENKATASUBBAYYA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have issued any orders to dispossess the Harijans of the lands that are being cultivated by them near tank-beds; if so, the reasons therefor? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" In September 1950, the Government ordered that cultivation of tank-bed lands might be allowed to continue in cases where cultivation had been carried on for the previous five years, with the permission of the authorities, subject to the condition among others that cases of encroachments on tank-bed lands against the orders of the authorities are to be evicted. The above orders make no distinction between Harijans and members of other communities. No specific orders to dispossess the *Harijans* of the lands that are being cultivated by them near tank-beds have been issued."

SRI P. VENKATASUBBAYYA :—" As the Harijans have brought these lands under cultivation at a huge cost, will the Government pay compensation to them for evicting them from those lands, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I do not understand this question. There are so many lands in this State."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Sir, the Harijans have been cultivating these lands for a long period of four or five years. Will the Government consider issuing pattas to them? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" This concession was given under the Grow More Food Scheme. The question of issuing a patta will be considered separately."